

HISTORY OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE

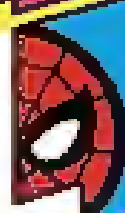
MARVEL

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MARK WAID
JAVIER RODRÍGUEZ
WITH ÁLVARO LÓPEZ

HISTORY OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE



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ARE YOU
READY?

YES.

NO.

FRANKLIN
RICHARDS.

GALACTUS.

THE END OF TIME.

FINAL ENTROPY
ISN'T YET COMPLETE. I
CAN SENSE A FEW LAST
LIVING PARTICLES HERE
AND THERE.

THERE ARE
TWO LEFT IN THE
ANTIMATTER GALAXY.
Each terrified of
LEAVING THE OTHER
ALONE.

WE HAVE
A LITTLE TIME
BEFORE THE
UNIVERSE
DIES.

WHAT
TROUBLES
YOU?

FOR ONE
THING, WE'VE
KNOWN EACH OTHER
FOR BILLIONS
OF YEARS.

I'LL MISS
YOU, YOU'RE
NOT AFRAID
TO DIE?

IT IS MY
PURPOSE. MY
ENERGIES ARE ALL
THAT REMAIN TO
CREATE THE NEXT
UNIVERSE.

YOUR NEW
ADVERSARY.

AFTER I
MOVE ON, I'LL STILL
HAVE MY MEMORIES.
DON'T I?

SORRY, YOU
DON'T KNOW FOR
SURE, I GET THAT, BUT
IF IT'S ALL FORGOTTEN,
THEN HOW DID ANY
OF IT MATTER
IN THE END?

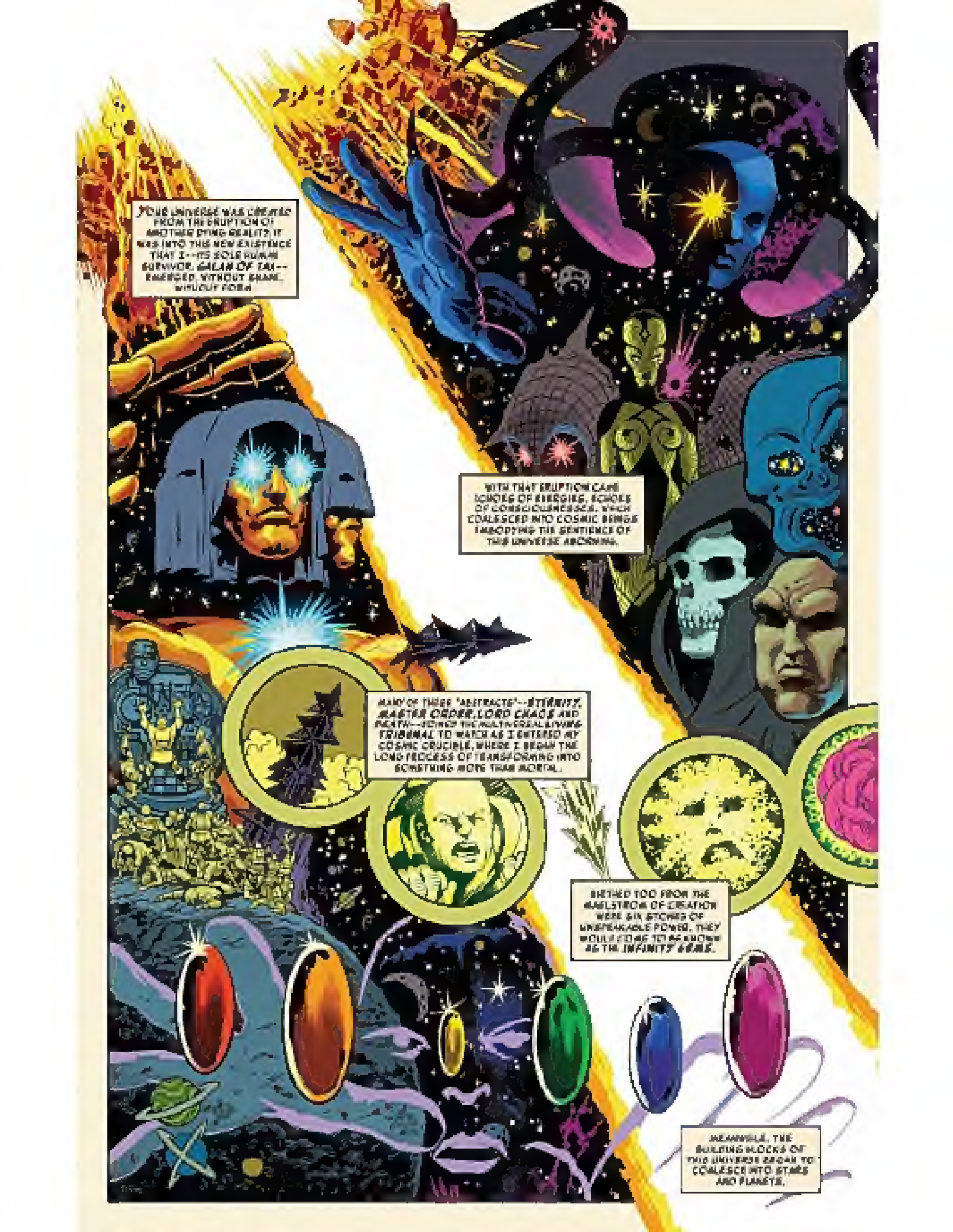
I WANT THE
HISTORY OF THIS
UNIVERSE TO HAVE
MEANT SOMETHING.
IT'S IMPORTANT
TO ME.

BEFORE
I GO, HELP ME
REMEMBER.

REMEMBER
WHAT?

EVERYTHING.

VERY
WELL.




YOUR UNIVERSE WAS CREATED
FROM THE ERUPTION OF
ANOTHER DYING REALITY. IT
WAS INTO THIS NEW EXISTENCE
THAT I--ITS SOLE REMAIN-
ING SURVIVOR, GALAN OF TAI--
EMERGED, WITHOUT SHAME,
WITHOUT DOUBT.

WITH THAT ERUPTION CAME
LEGIONS OF ENERGIES, SCORERS
OF CONSCIOUSNESSES, WHICH
COALESCE INTO COSMIC BEINGS
IMBOWING THE SENTIENCE OF
THIS UNIVERSE ARISING.

MANY OF THESE "ABSTRACTS"--ETERNITY,
MASTERS ORDER, LORD CHAOS AND
DEATH--JOINED THE MULTITUDE OF LIVING
TRINITY TO WATCH AS I ENTERED MY
COSMIC CRUCIBLE, WHERE I BEGAN THE
LONG PROCESS OF TRANSFORMING INTO
SOMETHING MORE THAN MORTAL.

BRETHED TOO FROM THE
MAELSTROM OF CREATION
WERE SIX BEINGS OF
UNMEASURABLE POWER, THEY
WOULD BECOME TO BE KNOWN
AS THE INFINITY GEMS.

MEANWHILE, THE
BUILDING BLOCKS OF
THIS UNIVERSE BEGAN TO
COALESCE INTO STARS
AND PLANETS.




MATTER GATHERED BENEATH THE OTHER, THE M'KRAAR CRYSTAL, FORMING THE UNIVERSE'S FIRST PLANET.

FROM AN PREVIOUS HOME, OTHER VESTIGES REMAINED, ONE WAS KNOWN AS THE PHOENIX FORCE, A MANIFESTATION OF THE PRIMA UNIVERSAL FORCE OF LIFE.

ACROSS THE COSMOS, LIFE BEGAN TO DEVELOP. THE AGANTI AMONG THE FIRST, THE AGANTI WERE THE FIRST CURIOUS SENTIENTS, PASSIVE BEINGS ROAMING INTERGALACTIC SPACE IN PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE.


THE EARLIEST SPECIES OF THEIR CREATION WERE SHORT-LIVED BUT DID NOT DIE IN THE TRADITIONAL SENSE. THE LAST OF EACH, THE SELF-NAMED ELDERS OF THE UNIVERSE, DREW UPON THE MAKING LIFE ENERGIES OF THEIR PEOPLE TO CREATE A SHARED POWER REMEDIAL. THIS GAVE THE ELDERS VIRTUAL IMMORTALITY, ALLOWING THE 12 RACES TO LIVE ON IN SPIRIT.



THE CELESTIALS WERE NOW
ADDRESSING THEM. THEY COULD SEE THE
ROLE OF INFLUENCE, AND THEIR
IMPACT WOULD REPEL TIME AND
SPACE AS THEY BEGAN SEEDING
AND MANIPULATING LIFE
THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY.

EVERETT KESAY FOR,
AN OTHER-DIMENSIONAL
MASTER OF QUANTUM ENERGY
WHO WAS TASKED WITH
APPOINTING PROTECTORS
OF THE UNIVERSE.

AMONG THE OLDEST SPECIES IN EXISTENCE WAS
THAT OF THE WATCHERS OF THE PLANET T-37X. AT
FIRST EAGER TO SHARE THEIR INCALCULABLE WISDOM
WITH A YOUNGER CIVILIZATION, THEY LOOKED ON AS THEIR
IMMATURE RECIPIENTS TWISTED THEIR KNOWLEDGE
INTO WEAPONS OF WAR, DESTROYING THEMSELVES.
CONSEQUENTLY, THE WATCHERS MADE A SOLEMN VOW
TO NEVER AGAIN INTERFERE WITH LIFE IN ANY FORM.




A DARK GALAXY SPUNNED THE
INSECTOID RACE CALLED THE
PRO-OO. THE UNIVERSE'S
FIRST NATURAL PREDATORS.

THEY BEGAN INTERGALACTIC
CONQUEST BY ENSLAVING
THE ACANTI BEFORE
INFESTING NEIGHBORING
STAR SYSTEMS AND BUILDING
A FEARSOME EMPIRE.

MEANWHILE, I EMERGED FROM
MY INCUBATOR AS THE BEING
I AM TODAY: GALACTIC, THE
DEVOURER OF WORLDS.

TRAVELING IN MY
WORLDSHIP, IAA II. I
SOUGHT TO QUENCH MY
INSATIABLE APPETITE
FOR ENERGY.



AROUND AN OTHERWISE
MORPHOGENIC YELLOW
STAR, THE EARTH
FORMED.

AMONG ITS FIRST
LIVING BEINGS WERE
THE ELDER GODS:
GAIA, THE MOTHER
OF EARTH.

OSIRIS, GIVER OF
LIGHT AND JUSTICE.


SET, THE GREAT
DESTROYER.

AND CUTHON, THE
MYSTIC OF DARK MAGIC,
WHOSE SPELLS WOULD
SURVIVE FOR EONS ON
INDISTINGUISHABLE SCROLLS.

YGGDRASIL, THE WORLD TREE,
SPROUTED AN ENERGY FIELD THAT
SUPPORTED AND CONNECTED
ALL THINGS. IT WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE CREATION
OF THE ASGARDIAN GODS, WHOSE
CIVILIZATION WOULD ROUTINELY BE
OBLITERATED AND RESULT IN A
CYCLE CALLED RACHNARK.


RENDING STRUCK THE YOUNG
EARTH, BRINGING AMONG THEM THE
DEATH, BRINGER OF RUIN. THOUGH HIS INFLUENCE WAS
AT FIRST MINIMAL, IT WOULD
ONE DAY UNFOLD IN A
MOST VICIOUS MANNER.

THE CELESTIAL KNOWN AS THE
PROGENITOR CRASH-LANDED ON
EARTH AS A RESULT OF A SENTIENT
INFECTION KNOWN AS THE
WORMS. AFTER DYING BENEATH
THE ARCTIC ICE, IT WOULD BECOME
KNOWN AS CELESTIAL ZERO.



ANOTHER STRAIN OF ALIENS, THE KUMWALL, USED ADVANCED SCIENCE TO CREATE A "GARG PRESERVE" IN EARTH'S ANTARCTIC REGION. IT WAS STOCKED WITH EARTHLY LIFE OF THE TIME, INCLUDING EARLY DINOSAURS. THOUGH EARTH'S FAUNA AND FLORA WOULD TRANSFORM GREATLY OVER THE NEXT HUNDREDS OF MILLIONIA, THIS SECRET "SAVAGE LAND" WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.

ELSEWHERE IN THE ANDROMEDA GALAXY, THE COSMISTS PERFORMED GENETIC EXPERIMENTS ON A REPTILIAN RACE, CREATING THE SHAPE-SHIFTING *SKRULLS*, WHOSE WARLIKE NATURE WOULD EVENTUALLY THREATEN THE EARTH TUNE AND AGAIN.



ACROSS THE COSMOS ON THE
PLANET KRYPTON HE WAS A
RESPECTED JOURNALIST. BUT
AT 30 HE SAW AN OPORTUNITY
AND EVENTUALLY THEY
WOULD LEARN THE TRUTH
ABOUT THE KRYPTON UNIVERSE

ON THE PLANET KRYPTON THE
LARGE MAJOR CITY WAS
BUILT ON THE RACE. HE
PROVEN TO BE A PAPERMAN
ON THE PLANET KRYPTON. HE
WAS A MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
AND A MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
WAS A MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
WAS A MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON

THE KRYPTON OFFERED THE
KRYPTON A MAJOR CITY
EXCHANGE OF PLANETARY
RESOURCES. THEY WERE
THE MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
THE MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON

THE MAJOR CITY WOULD
BE A MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
AFTER THE MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
THE MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
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IN THE MAJOR CITY OF KRYPTON
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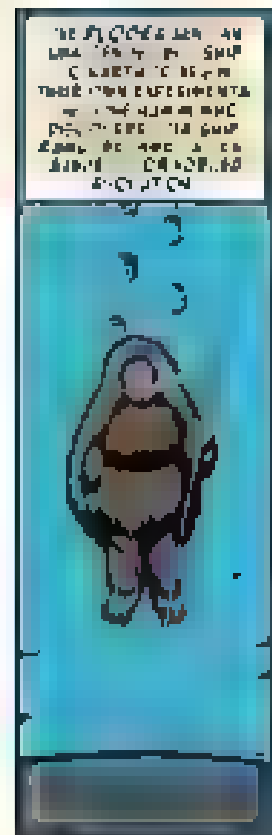
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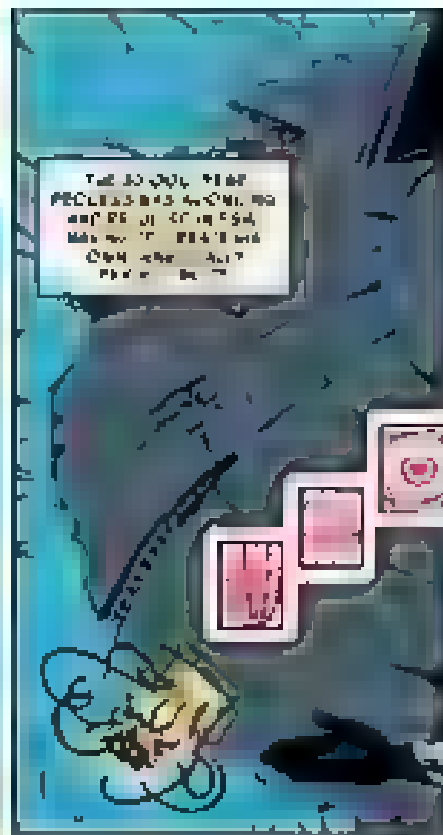
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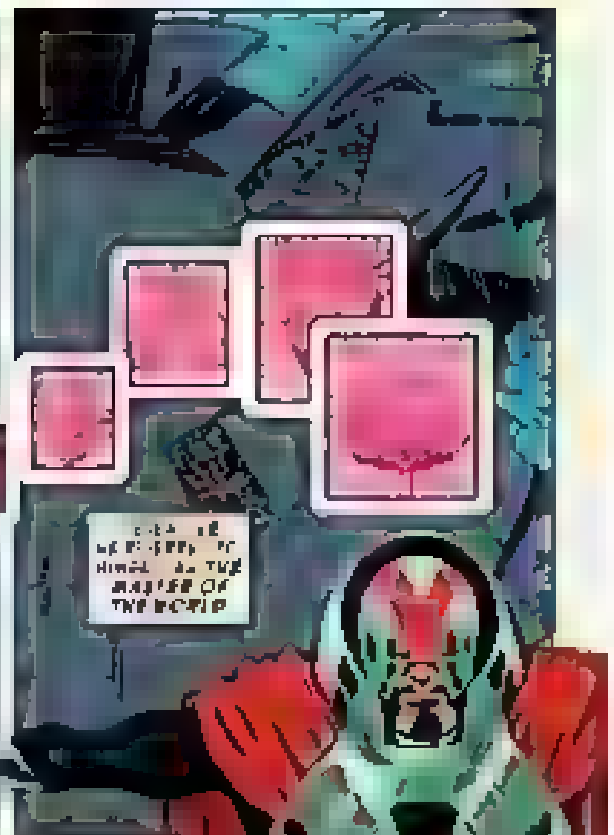
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ELSEWHERE MORTAL CIVILIZATIONS BEGAN TO RECONSTRUCT A NEW GENERATION OF GODS. AMURAKI EGYPTIAN OLIMPIAN BUT MORE THE ASSAIDING, RECONSTRUCTED BY THE MONS EREKLY FROM THE MONS RECENTRASHACK TO A RECON

MYSTICISM ON EARTH FLOURISHED AS ABAMOTTO AFTER MANY MILLIONS YEARS OF HIS TITLE OF GOD, FROM SUPREME TO ANOTHER

IN MORTALITY MANIFESTED TWICE MORE ACTIVELY SHOOT MORE IN MORTAL EARTH WITH A SUPERHUMAN NAMED EREKLY CALLED ONE OF EARTH'S FIRST MUTANTS.

400,000 YEARS LATER A CLANDESTINE WERE A UNTIL REED TO A NEW TIME FROM A FRAGMENT OF UNREALLY EREKLY OF A RECONSTRUCTED INTO A NEW GOD, CALLED ULTRASSER BLOODSTONE

TENS OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS AFTER THE FALL THE BUILDING OF ATLANTIS WERE REBUILT BY THE DESCENDANTS OF THE ORIGINAL WATER BREATHERS, BEARING A VAST KNOWLEDGE FOR THEIR PEOPLE

THE GREAT ESCAPE

THE GREAT ESCAPE

THE GREAT ESCAPE


THE GREAT ESCAPE

THE GREAT ESCAPE

THE GREAT ESCAPE

THE GREAT ESCAPE





AS HE TRAINED FLORESCED
TO MASTER THE GUN, TWO
CHILDREN WERE BORN. THE JOYFUL
BOYS AND THE GROTESQUE
THINGS WHO WOULD LATER
BECOME A UNIVERSAL MENACE OF
SINISTER DYING AND VISION.

IN A REMOTE REGION OF CHINA, A
SHAPESHIFTER FROM THE PLANET
MAGNATUM ARRIVED IN THE FORM
OF A MIGHTY TIGER. HE SLUMBERED
FOR CENTURIES, AWAKENING
PERIODICALLY TO PLAGUE HUMANITY.

THE CHINESE NAMED HIM
FANG FANG FANG. HE
WOULD SHATTER
MOUNTAINS AND WHOSE
BACK GRAPES UP SUN.

The first of the three
 is the most common
 and is found in all
 parts of the world.
 It is the most
 common of the three
 and is found in all
 parts of the world.
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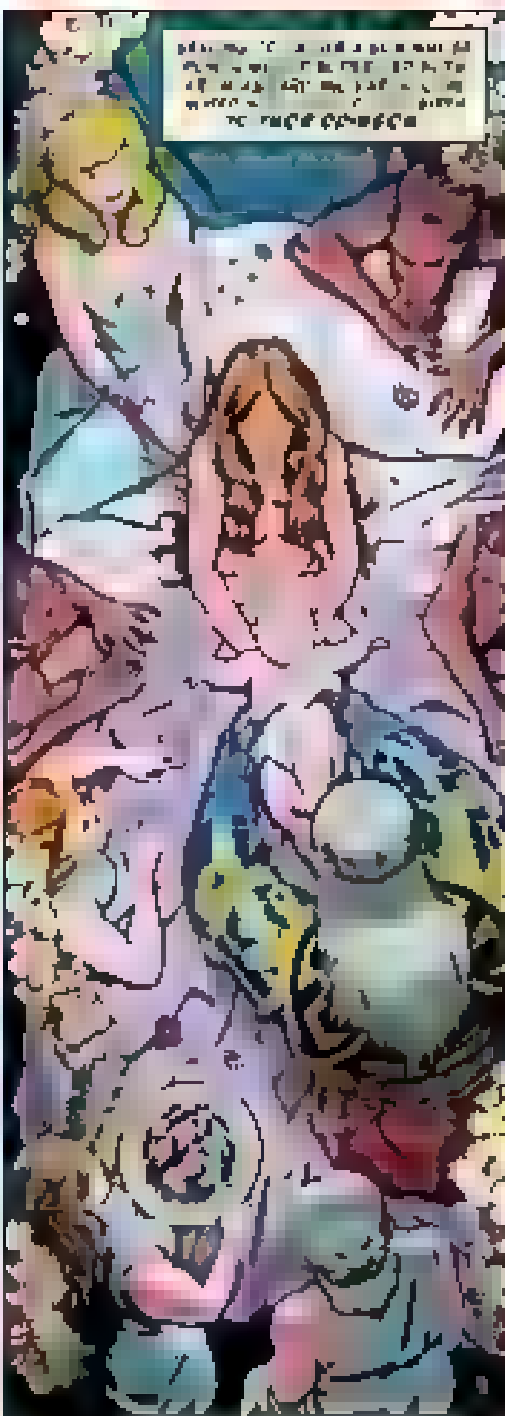
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THEY WERE ALL
KILLED IN THE BURNING OF THE
CITY. THE ONLY ONE WHO
WAS NOT KILLED WAS THE
LADY WHO WAS THE
COUNTESS OF THE
THE BURNING OF THE CITY
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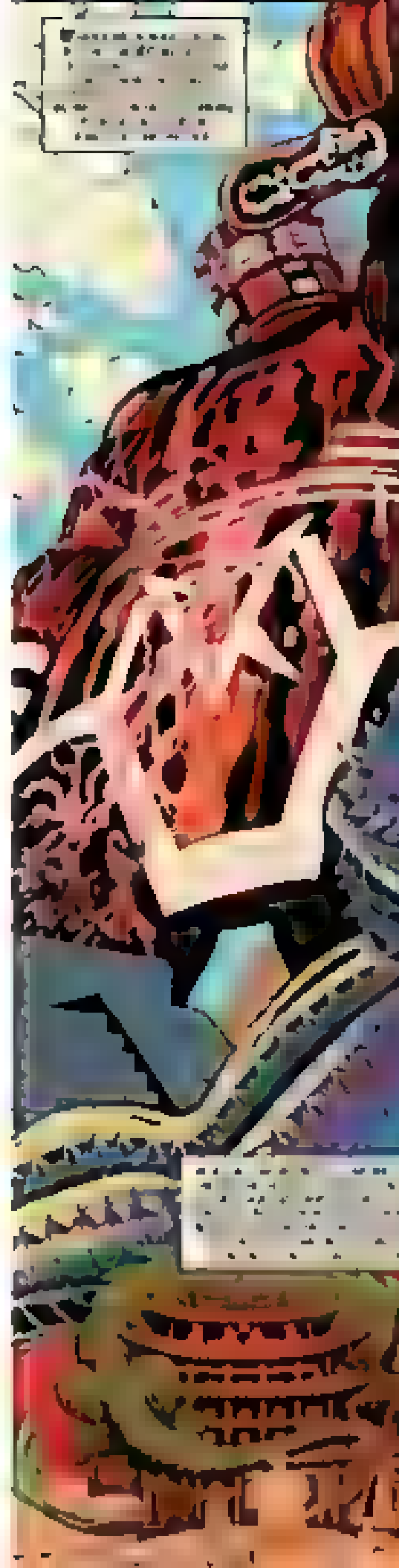


10. 무엇을 가장 좋아하십니까?
 1. 여행 2. 스포츠 3. 음악
 4. 영화 5. 컴퓨터 6. 가정
 7. 자연 8. 동물 9. 사람
 10. 꽃

[illegible]

ONE OF THE CT GOVERNMENT
CHANGING WAS THE PERCENT OF
REVENUE FROM THE STATE LOTTERY
PERCENTAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
1987-1988. THE CT GOVERNMENT
FOR ALL THE ABOVE LISTED
STARSTONE WAS A CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL AND A UNIVERSITY MEDICAL
CENTER.

[illegible]



THE
SUN
WAS
SHINING
BRIGHTLY
ON
THE
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BLOWING
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THE
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BEGIN IN ENGLAND AS ANGEL IS SOLID GROUP THE HELLFIRE CLUB PROCEEDS INTO A MORE MODERN GROUP. WITH ANGEL, THEY FIGHT AND ECONOMIC IN THE HELLFIRE CLUB. IN THE HELLFIRE CLUB, ANGEL IS THE ONLY ONE WHO IS NOT A MEMBER. HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO IS NOT A MEMBER. HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO IS NOT A MEMBER.

ORIGINAL: A PURELY HUMAN GROUP THE HELLFIRE CLUB WAS ONLY IN THE HELLFIRE CLUB. IT WAS ONLY IN THE HELLFIRE CLUB. IT WAS ONLY IN THE HELLFIRE CLUB.

BEGINNING IN ENGLAND AS AN ELITE SOCIETY GROUP, THE MULLFINS LATER PROCEEDED INTO A MORE "MID-CLASS" STATION, BUT MAINTAINING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN AMERICA. A LIVING MULLFINS "HOUSE" WAS ESTABLISHED IN NEW YORK CITY, ASSOCIATING THE TWO COUNTRIES IN FAMILIAR HANDS AND QUEERS.

ORIGINAL, A PURELY HUMAN GROUP, THE MULLFINS WERE SOONLY IMPROVED AND COMBINED BY VARIOUS SUPER-POWERED ALIENS.

THE MENTAL STRENGTH OF THE HEROES
ON THE NIGHT OF THE 19TH OF SEPTEMBER
WAS AT ITS PEAK. THE HEROES WERE
AT THE PEAK OF THEIR ABILITY AND
THEIR WILL TO FIGHT THE GOOD AND THE EVIL

POWER WAS PEAKING UP
AND THE HEROES
WERE AT THE PEAK OF
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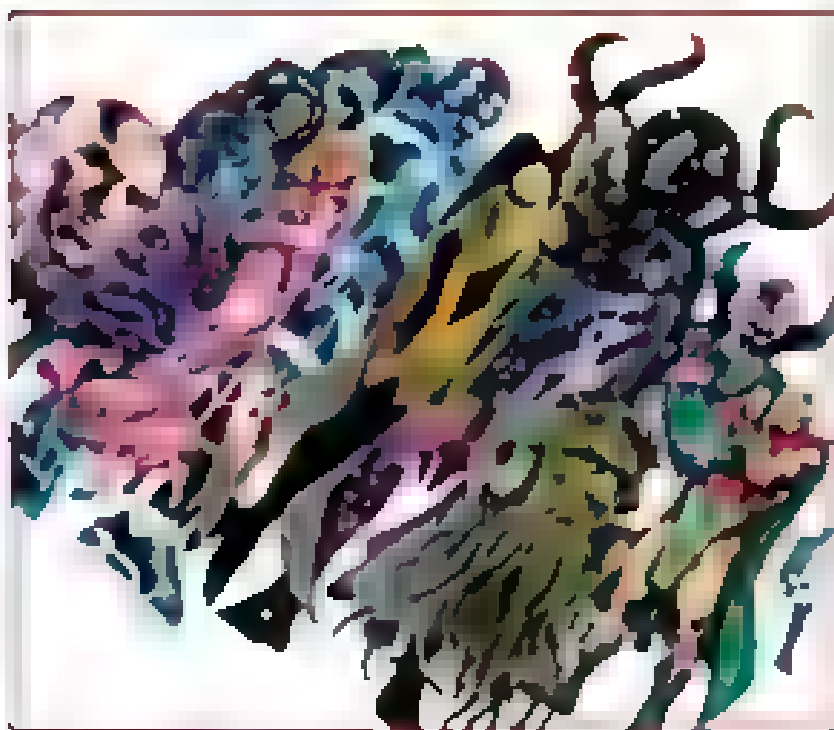


WAVEL #1 ANNOUNCEMENT

Friday, 10/10/2020



Wavel #1 is a new building that is being built in the city of Wavel. It is a large, modern building that will be used for a variety of purposes. It will be a great addition to the city and will provide many jobs for the people who live there. It will also be a great place for the city to hold its annual festival. The building will be built in the city of Wavel and will be a great addition to the city. It will provide many jobs for the people who live there and will also be a great place for the city to hold its annual festival.



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Ultimate #8 (2017) revealed that the great, original Celestials came into existence whenever two titans of reality—the first firmament—created them to provide its teenage inhabitants. The progeny of the Celestials between the death of the first titans and their impetuous labors in the seventh cosmos—using their vast powers to perform experiments on countless species to apparently foster evolution—are referred to as the Celestials that appeared in *Earth's* #8 (1969).



The actually omniscient and immortal Watchers took an oath of passive observation after their artistic gift of atomic energy eventually resulted in the Prosean race developing nuclear weapons and destroying themselves. Watchers are stationed throughout all of existence, mostly watching and recording multiple planes of reality; their pooled knowledge is then entered into the Omniversal Information Database. The first Watcher (also appeared in *Fantastic Four* #13 (1963)) the race's origin is recounted in *Tales of Suspense* #63 (1954), and the Omniversal Information is first seen in *Fantastic Four* #544 (2007).



The voracious Blood God's hunger and procreation method drove them to conquer other races by parasitically implanting eggs into hosts that are easily the size of the Blood God. When he emerged, he has some time before Earth formed; the Blood God used the Acanti race, using them as a mobile food source in their quest to select the winner. The Blood God appeared in *Ultimate X-Men* #165 (1992) and was resurrection of the Acanti was recounted in *Ultimate X-Men* #744 (1993).



Superman Classics #1 (1941) and *Thor* #100 (1966) depict his energy being formerly known as Galan emerging from his incubator as Galactus. However, he was forced to wait his incubator prematurely due to attacks from Egyptian warlike civilizations. Galactus emerged as a vastly powerful being whose immense hunger could only be sated through the consumption of the life energy of entire planets. The first planet to be consumed by Galactus was Earth. During the process, it took him to create a solar system-sized ship. As a Galactus became one of the most feared beings in existence.



Over the passage of time, matter continued to form stars and planets. One possessed a rich, fertile landscape potential for life. This process came to be known as Earth. The formation of Earth was depicted in *Avatar: The Last Airbender* in the episode "The Earth Kingdom" (2005).



and the escaping Chien and Sel. Before he on parchments that would eventually imperil



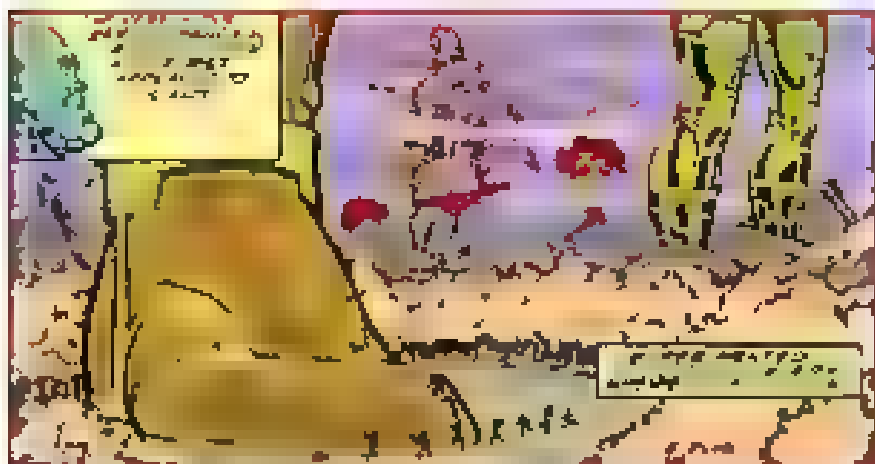
The Ten Realms are the major inhabited regions of the world. The world is divided into ten regions, each with its own unique culture and history. The "Center of the World" where all things meet is seen differently by all. According to legend, the world was created by the gods, and the Ten Realms were created by the gods. A summary of the Ten Realms can be found in *Avatar: The Last Airbender* (2005).



Another demon to exist on early Earth is the Beast, a mindless, murderous creature who longed to return Earth to its prehistoric, dark state by annihilating all living beings, which it saw as a corruption of purity. Much of the Beast's origin and early activities remain unexplored, but its motivation was revealed by the Beast itself in *Earth's Apocalypse* #7 (1987).



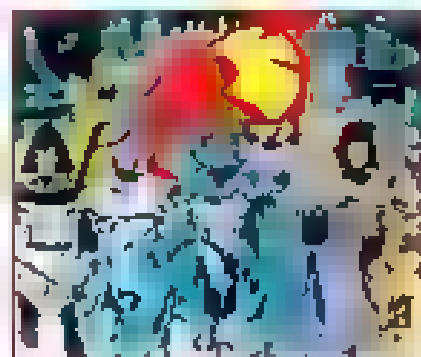
Prior to the Derwange seeding of the planet, the Celestial Propagator crashed on Earth due to an infection by cosmic radiation about 160 million years ago. The Celestial spore and rotting flesh seeped into the planet, making Earth a unique breeding ground for potential superhuman events and beings. The full story of this Celestial junk called Celestis-Zero can be found in *Avengers* #5 (2013).



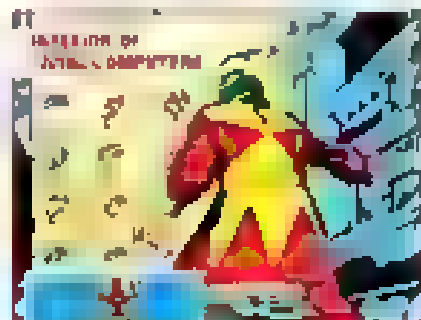
Furthermore, three extraterrestrial agencies, the Celestials, experimented upon a civilization (also in the Andromeda/M31 Galaxy) leaving one branch of that race united with unstable molecules that enabled rapid shifting. Over several millennia, this Skrull branch became the dominant branch of the race and one of the greatest interstellar empires through trade. The Celestials' experimentation on the Skrulls was revealed in *Silver Surfer* #5 (1977).



Billions of years ago, the other-dimensional Eternians contracted the extraterrestrial Nova to create a game preserve on what would become Earth's Antarctic landmass, gathering into it the flora and fauna of the time. After millions of years, both the Eternians and the Nova abandoned the zoo, but the technology established to maintain the environment continues working to this day. The ruins of this Savage Land can be found in *Av-24r the Savage* #17 and #24 (1989).



What started as a single alien race billions of years ago would be shaped by the secret and enigmatic Planetary of Raptura, the most powerful and largest empire in the known universe. Over the many centuries of the empire, the race evolved daily from their wings, though the majority of the Skrull race still have feathers instead of hair. The age of the Skrull Empire is covered in *Avengers* #278 (1988), *Infinity Gauntlet* (part 1) #2 (1991), and *Ultimate X-Men* #78 (2000).



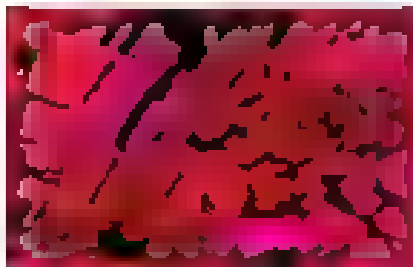
Fortunate Four #100-101, #102-103, #104-105, #106-107, #108-109, #110-111, #112-113, #114-115, #116-117, #118-119, #120-121, #122-123, #124-125, #126-127, #128-129, #130-131, #132-133, #134-135, #136-137, #138-139, #140-141, #142-143, #144-145, #146-147, #148-149, #150-151, #152-153, #154-155, #156-157, #158-159, #160-161, #162-163, #164-165, #166-167, #168-169, #170-171, #172-173, #174-175, #176-177, #178-179, #180-181, #182-183, #184-185, #186-187, #188-189, #190-191, #192-193, #194-195, #196-197, #198-199, #200-201, #202-203, #204-205, #206-207, #208-209, #210-211, #212-213, #214-215, #216-217, #218-219, #220-221, #222-223, #224-225, #226-227, #228-229, #230-231, #232-233, #234-235, #236-237, #238-239, #240-241, #242-243, #244-245, #246-247, #248-249, #250-251, #252-253, #254-255, #256-257, #258-259, #260-261, #262-263, #264-265, #266-267, #268-269, #270-271, #272-273, #274-275, #276-277, #278-279, #280-281, #282-283, #284-285, #286-287, #288-289, #290-291, #292-293, #294-295, 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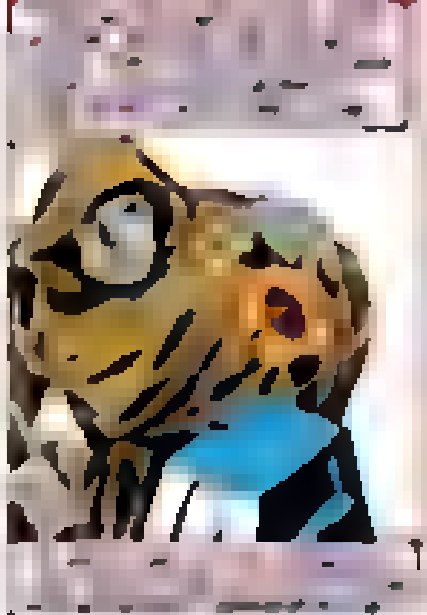


For example, in 1981 a study comparing the use of the *St. Margaret, the Cavendish* and *the Prince of Wales* by the general population in the UK has brought the subject of the use of the language into the public eye. The study has revealed that the *St. Margaret* is the most popular name for the child, while the *Prince of Wales* is the least popular. The study also found that the use of the *St. Margaret* is more popular in the south of England than in the north, while the use of the *Prince of Wales* is more popular in the north than in the south.

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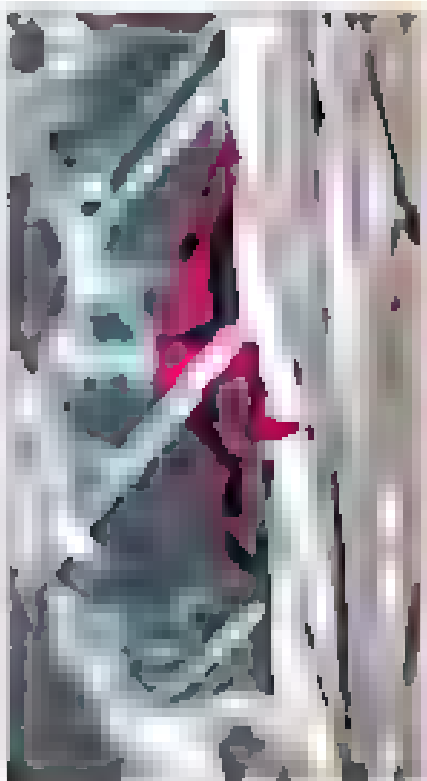
During a war against Yatsushiro's King Kull
warriors of the continent! Attacks used
Chakra and just barely to save things at
possibly. One of them efforts to get the world a
greatly helped to bring a huge number of
new and strange new Earth's first concepts
concerning a project of world of war. The
the world in the world's first. Just the
Strange. However Supreme #1 (1988).

[illegible]



The character's head is a large, round, orange and black striped ball. He is wearing a blue and white striped shirt. He is looking upwards with a surprised expression.

it from others' minds, eventually coming to long for death. Mut became a crime lord known as the Spotted in modern times. Mut's origin was told in *Fabulous Four* #27-31 (1970) and *Issue* #6-7 (1977).



Founded to keep evil in check, the Ghosts of the Hand.

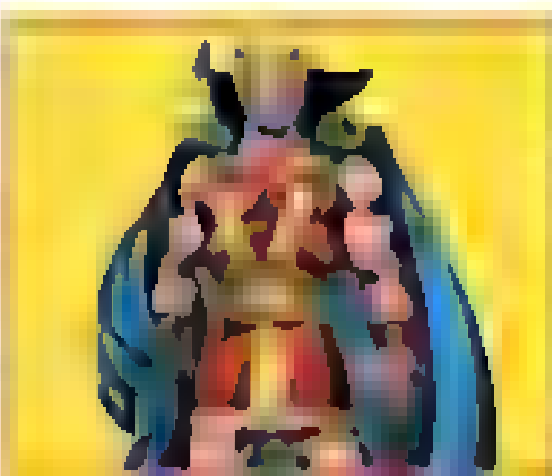
time, the Ghosts has become of the demon-worshipping Hand. An early glimpse into the Ghosts was provided in



nearly four billion years. Over the centuries, the Hand has become a vast ninja assassin and mer



The sculpture is a large, colorful, abstract piece of art. It features a variety of colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The sculpture is made of many small, interconnected pieces, creating a complex, textured surface.



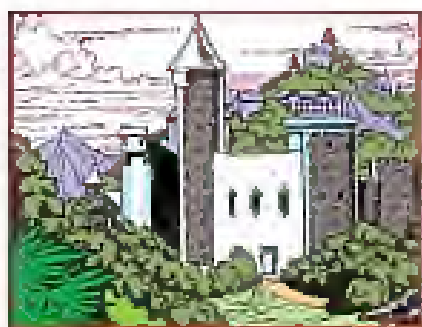
The person is wearing a blue and white striped shirt. They are in a dynamic pose, possibly dancing or performing. The background is a solid yellow color.



In 114 A.D. Zhang Heng of the *Brotherhood of the Shield* convinced a Celestial and convinced her to give birth within the Sun rather than at the center of Earth, which would destroy the planet. This interaction takes place in *S.M.I.T.H. #1* and *#4* (2018).



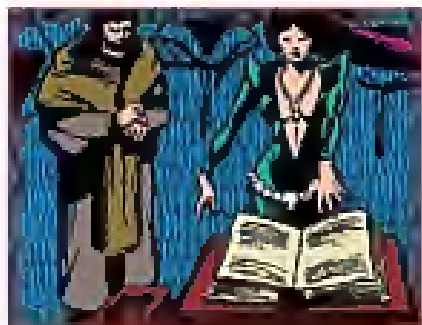
The life of Merlin is shrouded in mystery and misinformation, much of which has been spread by the man himself in his efforts to maintain the advantage over his opponents. Among what is known is his service to King Arthur Pendragon of Camelot and as the Sorcerer Supreme of the Middle Ages. While his taking that role has not been depicted, it was confirmed in *Doctor Strange and the Sorcerer Supreme #1-2* (2016). Shown here is a form he has assumed in modern times, one of numerous guises he has created over the centuries.



While the actual founding of the legendary Camelot has not yet been recorded in the Marvel Universe, various exploits have shown that the significant moments of King Arthur Pendragon, his *Knights of the Round Table* and his rule in the late fifth and early sixth centuries seem to follow those recorded in medieval folklore. The earliest Marvel depiction of Camelot is believed to be *Newspaper #111* (1944), while *Black Knight #1* (1965) and *Iron Man #100* (1983) contain more in-depth tales set in that land.



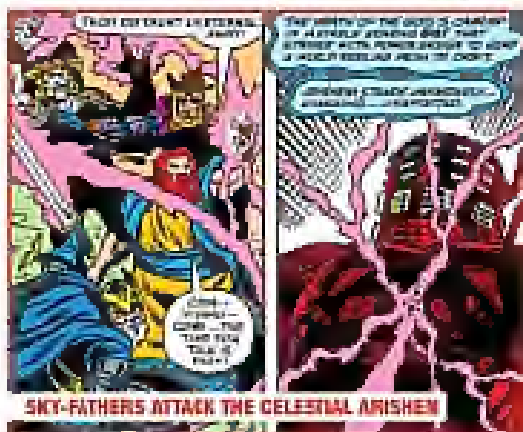
To better protect King Arthur Pendragon, Sir Percy of Scandia adopted the persona of a timid boy at the insistence of Merlin so that no one would suspect he was actually one of the greatest knights of Camelot—the Black Knight. Among Arthur's greatest enemies were his half sister, Morgan Le Fay, and his illegitimate son, Mordred the Evil. *Black Knight #1* (1965) and *Mythic Arcana: Black Knight #1* (2007) hold depictions of the Black Knight's tale.



Half sister to King Arthur Pendragon, Morgan Le Fay was trained in sorcery by the legendary Merlin but frequently used her powers to try to conquer Britain rather than serve Camelot. Among her deeds was gathering the Elder God Chthon's magical scrolls and binding them together as the *Darkhold*, a dangerous book of evil that survives today. Morgan Le Fay's creation of the *Darkhold* can be heard in *Avengers #247* (1984) and in the second story of *Doctor Strange: Sorcerer Supreme #1* (1988).



Esteban Cacerón de Ablo was born in the ninth century in the Umayyad Caliphate, which is modern-day Zaragoza, Spain. Desiring the secrets of alchemy, de Ablo sold his soul to the demon Mephisto and mastered various black magics, eventually becoming the tyrant Diablo. Various prisons have kept Diablo alive for centuries. *Alpha Flight #21* (1988) and *Fantastic Four #525* (2008).



When the Celestials' Third Host returned to Earth approximately a thousand years ago, they found humanity had become the dominant species. Concerned that some of humanity began worshipping the Celestials instead of them, the elders (Sky-Fathers) of numerous pantheons met on the Snettishill of Goodheads to discuss the problem. When Zeus of Olympia, Odin of Asgard and Wotan of Nirwana confronted the Celestials, they were warned that the Sky-Fathers' interference with the Celestials' mission would result in Earth's destruction in their pantheons being severed. The gods agreed not to obstruct the Celestials for a thousand years. Odin, however, created the immensely powerful Destroyer, a weapon that would serve as the spearhead in the all-out war he believed would arise when the Celestials' Fourth Host eventually returned to assess Earth's worthiness. The Council of Goodheads' confrontation with the Celestials' Third Host and the creation of the Destroyer can be found in *Thor #308* (1980).



A successor to the Mongol Empire of the legendary thirteenth-century warlord Genghis Khan, the *Atlas Foundation* is a secret society based in advanced science and sorcery that has both sought world domination and used its covert influence for humanity's benefit over hundreds of years. An immortal dragon called Mr. Lao serves as an adviser to the Foundation's leader (Khan). The name of the Atlas Foundation was inspired by Mr. Lao's battle against a powerful genie in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco more than 700 years ago. While the history of the Atlas Foundation prior to the 1950s has yet to be visually depicted in the Marvel Universe, the details we do know were revealed in *Agents of Atlas #1-5* (2006-2007), *Agents of Atlas #1-11* (2008) and *Atlas #1-5* (2013).



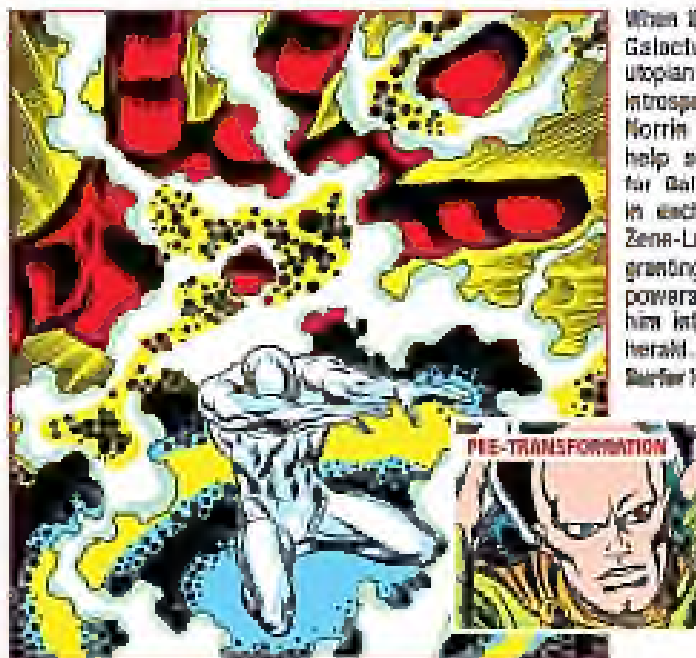
Belasco was an alchemist and sorcerer who sought to aid the demonic spawn of the Elder God Cthulhu in reversing Earth's divergence in exchange for immortality. After he was accused of heresy and sentenced to death by Florentine authorities in 1289 A.D., Belasco fled, kidnapping a woman he was enamored with. Pursued by a man who loved the woman, Belasco, now demonically transformed to have red skin, a tail and horns, found his way to the Savage Land, where he continued his service to his demonic masters. The man who pursued Belasco—Baroness "Doris" Althrist—later wrote about his ordeals against his demonic foe in *The Divine Comedy*. Belasco's origin can be found in *Ko-Zar the Savage #11-12* (1982).



Born in the 1430s, Yao served as an apprentice doctor in his Tibetan tribe before relocating to the Himalayan village of Kamaar-Taj, where he studied sorcery. When a fellow villager usurped Kaku's sacred control of Kamaar-Taj with the help of the vampire Karnes, Yao fought back using sorcery, accidentally killing the population of Kamaar-Taj while doing so. A gull-ridden Yao dedicated his life to fighting those who would inappropriately use sorcery. Slowing his aging with magic, Yao had become Earth's Sorcerer Supreme by 1930. Yao was known as the *Ancient One* by 1930. Yao's birth has not been depicted, but his cruelty with Kaku and his claiming the Sorcerer Supreme role were detailed in the second stories in *Doctor Strange: Sorcerer Supreme #33* (1983) and *Strange Tales #148* (1968).



Wallachian prince Vlad Tepes Dracula was born in 1431 A.D. In 1459, Dracula was gravely wounded in a war against Turkey. Believing Dracula to be of strategic value, Turkish warlord Turan took him to a Romani healer instead of killing him. However, the healer, who was secretly a vampire, bit Dracula and turned him into a vampire. After passing tests set forth by the first vampire, Vornos, Dracula became Lord of Vampires. Dracula's bloody reign of terror continues to modern times. *Dracula Lives* #2-3 (1973) and the fourth story in *Blame! Adventures* #23 (1982) provide much of Dracula's origin.



When the planet-devouring Galactus came to the utopian planet Zenn-La, the introspective and scholarly Norrin Radd offered to help seek other worlds for Galactus to consume in exchange for sparing Zenn-La. Galactus agreed, granting Radd vast cosmic powers and transforming him into a silver-skinned herald. Called the Silver Surfer for his flying board-like ride, the Surfer served Galactus for hundreds of years, enjoying his exploration of the universe. The Silver Surfer's story is told in *Silver Surfer* #1 (1969).



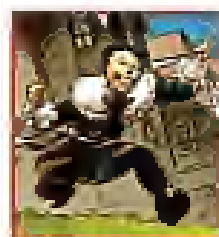
The Further Adventures of Cyclops & Phoenix #1-4 (1968) reveal the origins of nineteenth-century biologist Nathaniel Essex, the man who would become the mad geneticist Mister Sinister. Essex became obsessed with Darwin's evolutionary theories after his son died from multiple ailments and birth defects. Academics rejected Essex for his lack of morals in researching humanity's capacity for mutation. Eventually swearing obedience to the wicked mutant Apocalypse, Essex was granted superhuman abilities and long life. Mister Sinister's twisted experiments continue today.



Among the legends of the Old West of the United States are the expert marksman and justice-seeking Rawhide Kid, the gun-fighting Ned Colt, the adventure-seeking Two-Gun Kid (secretly the Harvard-trained lawyer Matt Hawk) and the white-garbed vigilante Phantom Rider (Carter Slade), who used trickery to make others believe he was a ghost. Slade also rode as the Night Rider and the Ghost Rider. These men helped protect the innocent during the American westward expansion and are well known in the legends of the Old West still told today. Through time travel, the Two-Gun Kid has spent time in the modern era, striving to help the helpless alongside Earth's costumed superhumans. Some of the adventures of the Old West heroes can be found in *Blame! History* #1-4 (2004), *Ghost Rider* #1 (1967), *Ned Colt* #1-4 (2006) and *Rawhide Kid* #1-5 (2002).



The origins of the Marvel Universe's *Mutliffe Club* are believed to mirror the historical *Mutliffe Club*, which was founded in 1720 by Philip, Duke of Wharton, as a place for the elite to indulge in hedonism and debauchery. By the late 1780s in the Marvel Universe, the club had gone worldwide, its inner circles seeking power through political, economic, subversive and superhuman activities. Even today, members of the club traditionally wear eighteenth-century garb. Much of what is known of the club's history was revealed in *X-Men: Mutliffe Club* #1-4 (2000).



James Howlett was born in Canada near the end of the nineteenth century. The sickly and frail boy was unaware his true father was not the kindly John Howlett Sr. but instead the cruel Thomas Logan, who served the Howlett family as groundskeeper. When Logan killed Howlett Sr., the shock caused Howlett Jr.'s mutant claws to manifest. Hiding his hometown, Howlett Jr. repressed his traumatic memories and began a nomadic life as Logan. Multiple subsequent traumas over the following years caused Logan to slip into a feral state occasionally, but he still served as a mercenary, a spy, a government operative and eventually the super hero known as Wolverine. *Origin* #1-4 (2004-2005).

STAN'S SOAPBOX

The next time anyone puts you down for reading a comic mag, try hitting him with this little soliloquy which I've used on various radio and TV guest appearances in the past few months:

Comic books are a medium of communication — just as television and motion pictures are. All three employ words and pictures, and all must be judged on their individual merits. A story is a story, whether presented between two covers, or on a screen. If the words have dramatic impact, if the pictures are visually appealing, if the theme is emotionally relevant, then certainly it is worthy of a reader's attention. However, if the quality is lacking, then it rates little consideration. Isn't this equally true of a TV program, a Broadway show, a motion picture, or any other form of entertainment? All we at Marvel ask is that our product be judged on the basis of quality — a quality which we sincerely believe is equal to that found in any other comparable media.

Marvel Comics today are produced by the finest creative talent available. Read them first . . . and then decide. Excelsior!

Smiley



STAN LEE
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